

D Quotations (11-27-2020)

Dagan, Meir (via Bergman, Mossad):

"[The media] is an insatiable monster, so there's no point in maintaining a relationship with it... There are advantages to having a back injury. You get a doctor's certificate confirming that you're not spineless..."

Assassinations have an effect on morale, as well as a practical effect. anyone can be replaced, but there's a difference between a replacement with guts and some lifeless character... Assassination is a lot more moral than waging all-out war...
...sometimes it's more effective to kill the driver, and that's that."

"...the evils of Capitalism ... were basically rooted in the public's failure to appreciably shorten the hours of labor..."

the only move which Capitalism could make to save itself from collapse...

Capitalism is necessarily in unstable equilibrium. ...

under a chronic and genuine scarcity of labor Capitalism is potentially an almost ideal system of economy...

Poverty is far more than a matter of bread.

...it is desperation and fear more than greed that transforms man into the beast.

...labor-saving machinery does not of itself bring about a single moment of leisure when the working day is not shortened..."

Arthur Dahlberg

"The press in America is no blend of disparate tastes and interests into one singular identifiable amalgamation. It is a vast, diversified collection of distinct voices serving specific interests and communities. This is the very nature of democracy."

The Daily Herald Arlington Heights, IL

Dalai Lama see Lama

"Be outrageous. It's the only place that isn't crowded."

Sam Daley-Harris

"...populists tend to want to fight with the other side rather than try to find ways of getting through it. Populists have in common that they're confrontational."

"I have a principle: if you worry, you don't have to worry. And if you don't worry, you have to worry."

Ray Dalio

"Socialism collapsed because it did not allow the market to tell the economic truth. Capitalism may collapse because it does not allow the market to tell the ecological truth."

Oystein Dalle, VP (former) of Exxon for North Sea in Plan B; retired VP of Esso for Norway and the North Sea

Daly, Herman:

"While the invisible hand looks after the private sector, the invisible foot kicks the public sector to pieces."

"[...the elites who make the decisions] have figured out how to keep the benefits for themselves while 'sharing' the costs with the poor, the future, and other species"

Herman E. Daly

"...an information economy? Why not a knowledge economy?"

Why not a wisdom economy?"

"Once we pass the optimal scale, growth becomes stupid in the short run and impossible to maintain in the long run."

"How do you envision a successful economy without continuous growth?

It helps to consider a prior question: how do you envision a successful planet earth without continuous growth? That is easy to envision because it exists! The earth as a whole does not grow in physical dimensions. Yet it changes qualitatively, it evolves and develops. Total matter on earth cycles, but does not grow. Energy from the sun flows through the earth coming in as a radiant low-entropy energy and exiting as high-entropy heat. But the solar flow is not growing. Nearly all life is powered by this entropic throughput of solar energy. There is birth and death, production and depreciation. New things evolve; old things go extinct. There is continual change. There is qualitative development. But the earth is not growing!

Excess carrying capacity is a necessary condition for freedom and democracy. Living close to the limit of carrying capacity, as on a submarine or spaceship, requires very strict discipline. On submarines we have a captain with absolute authority, not a democracy. If we want democracy, we better not grow up to the limit of carrying capacity — better to leave some slack, some margin for tolerance of the disagreements and errors that freedom entails.

Laissez-faire takes on a new meaning — it is the ecosystem, not the economy that must be "left alone" to manage itself and evolve by its own rules. ...it is past time to transfer the privileges of "laissez-faire" from the economy to the ecosystem."

Herman E Daly

"present day society is locked into four positive feedback loops which need to be broken:

economic growth which feeds on itself,

population growth which feeds on itself,

technological growth which feeds on itself, and a

pattern of income inequality which seems to be self-sustaining and which tends to spur growth in the other three areas."

Victor Furkiss via Herman Daly

"Money ranks with the wheel and fire among ancient inventions without which the modern world could not have come into being...it is illegal for citizens to destroy or deface it, but private banks can annihilate it."

...debt appears to offer a means of dodging nature, of evading the second law of thermodynamics, the law of randomization, rust, and rot....the idea that all people can live off the interest of their mutual indebtedness is just another perpetual motion scheme — a vulgar delusion on a grand scale."

"...moral hazard ...is what results from the combination of privatized profit and socialized loss."

"...under Reagan...the banking sector wanted 'the government off its back'. Now...the last thing it wants is for the government to leave the scene of the train wreck."

"...secure in the faith that technology is likely to mop up whatever mess they make."

A failed growth economy and a steady-state economy are not the same thing; they are the very different alternatives we face.

Growth is more of the same stuff; development is the same amount of better stuff (or at least different stuff).

Tax 'bads', stop taxing 'goods'. That's the basic idea. You don't want to tax what you want more of. You do want to tax what you want less of. This could be sold as a revenue-neutral shift. We're not going to tax more, we're going to tax differently, we're going to tax different things to instill different incentives.

...'sustainable growth' — a clear oxymoron.

Once you draw the boundary of the environment around the economy, you have said that the economy cannot expand forever.

The principle...an eleventh commandment: Thou shalt not allow unlimited inequality in the distribution of private property.

Historically the steady state is the normal condition; growth is an aberration.

Herman E Daly

"...if the monetary interest rate were negative (i.e., if you lost less by investing your money than by holding it)..."

Herman Daly

"[Economics] insists on straining out gnats of inefficient allocation while swallowing camels of unsustainable scale and unjust distribution. It is past time for a big reform in economics! "Reform of both economic understanding and the economic system in the light of physical and moral first principles is the sine qua non of a civilization capable of using knowledge for good rather than evil.

"...the world's real problem was faulty economics."
Daly quoting Soddy

Daly quoting Millikan:
"sleep in peace with the consciousness that the Creator has put some foolproof elements into his handiwork, and that man is powerless to do it any titanic physical damage"
end Herman Daly

"...violent language can incite actual violence ... metaphor can incite murder. ...Palin added to a climate of violence."
Michael Daly

Dane, Barbara:
"You can use your voice to move people."
from NYT profile:
"Paredon didn't put out music about politics. They put out music of politics," said Josh MacPhee, the author of "An Encyclopedia of Political Record Labels" and a founder of the Brooklyn-based Interference Archive, which chronicles the cultural production of social movements. "These are not artists commenting on political issues. These were sounds that were produced by people in motion trying to transform their lives."
"Why would I want to stand in front of a band with a low-cut dress singing stupid words when I could be singing for workers who are on strike?," she said. "It didn't seem like a good bargain to me."
If you see your country "making horrible mistakes, you have to speak up," she said. "You're colluding with it if you don't speak up."
"One must participate in the emerging struggle around them in order to make art that reflects it," she said.
"If you're an artist, you've already got tools. If you don't know what to write about, remember that truth and reality is what we're after. You have to know reality to tell the truth about it. You got to get out and be a part of it."
also Paredon Records

"A great complexity intrudes, tearing apart, piece by piece, all of your carefully constructed denials."
Mark Z Danielewski

Daniels Defense site:
"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."
maker of rifle used by Uvalde shooter

"Taxes are not just about money but about the meanings we attach to money."
Ellen Dannin

"Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine."
Anthony J. D'Angelo

"A great complexity intrudes, tearing apart, piece by piece, all of your carefully constructed denials."
Mark Z Danielewski

"Taxes are not just about money but about the meanings we attach to money."
Ellen Dannin

"We need audacity, and yet more audacity, and always audacity!"
Georges Danton

"Trump's essence is a dark swirl of cruelty, violence and fear. He doesn't know that people who don't confront their demons are destined to be confronted by them."
Michael D'Antonio via Maureen Dowd, Touch of Evil

"The secret of happiness is to have low expectations...You can't fight faith with logic."
Tony Daoud, Square of Change, Beirut, Lebanon

"The secret of happiness is to have low expectations...You can't fight faith with logic."
Tony Daoud, Square of Change, Beirut, Lebanon

"Suzanne Collins ...filtered her influences through a heroine who embodies the adage that it's better to die on your feet than live on your knees ... a character who exists outside the traditional confines of the feminine-masculine split."
Manohla Dargis, NY Times review of Mockingjay Part 2.

Dark, Alice Elliott:
"I want more than a story - I want the structure and patterning of a book to reach me on a deep level."

"...pain is a biopsychosocial condition...most people taking opioids longterm do not benefit from the,...up to one-third of the U.S. population lives with ongoing pain. Chronic pain ... is more prevalent than diabetes or heart disease."
Beth Darnell see pdf

Darnton, Robert:
"The marvels of communication technology in the present have produced a false consciousness about the past," wrote Robert Darnton

re: Iran nuclear pact pullout: "...an act of diplomatic vandalism, seemingly for ideological and personality reasons, because it was 'Obama's deal'."
"..Trump radiates insecurity."
Sir Kim Darroch

"I always felt that doubt was the beginning of wisdom, and the fear of God was the end of wisdom."
"History repeats itself.
That's one of the things wrong with history."
Clarence Darrow

"Ignorance more frequently begets confidence than does knowledge." -Charles Darwin
"There is grandeur in this view of life, with its several powers, having been originally breathed into a few forms or into one; and that, whilst this planet has gone cycling on according to the fixed law of gravity, from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being, evolved."
Charles Darwin
"Men do not differ much in intellect, only in zeal and hard work."
"If I had to live my life again, I would have made a rule to read some poetry and listen to some music at least once every week."

Charles Darwin, 1859

"Without speculation there is no good and original observation."

Charles Darwin

"I see no good reason why the views given in this volume should shock the religious feelings of anyone."

Charles Darwin

"It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change."

Charles Darwin

"...from so simple a beginning endless forms, most beautiful and most wonderful, have been, and are being, evolved."

Charles Darwin, Origin of Species, 1859

"I have no great quickness of apprehension or wit...
my power to follow a long or purely abstract train of thought is limited...
but I am superior to the common run of men in noticing things
which easily escape attention, and in observing them carefully."

Darwin

"Great is the power of steady misrepresentation."

C Darwin, 1872

Darwin: They say he read novels to relax, but only certain kinds—nothing that ended unhappily. If he happened on something like that, enraged, he flung the book into the fire."

on Darwin via Annie Proulx

"Governments gambled on a return to growth solving all the problems. That bet has failed."

Satyajit Das

"...a nation-state is an organization that has an exclusive right in a specific territory to use and threaten killing force on its own citizens and on anyone who threatens its so-called 'sovereignty'.
"...it is not that 'communism' died and 'capitalism' triumphed. It is that 'communism' died before 'capitalism' did. Both are unsustainable."

Jim Dator nonkilling

Rene Daumal (via Hugh and Popova), from Mt. Analogue.

"Alpinism is the art of climbing in the mountains in such a way as to face the greatest risks with the greatest prudence. Art is taken here to mean knowledge gained in action. You cannot stay on the mountaintop forever, you have to come down again. So why bother in the first place?
Just this, What is above knows what is below, but what is below does not know what is above. In climbing, take careful note of the difficulties along the way, for as you go up you can observe them. Coming down, you will no longer see them, but you will know they are there if you have observed them well. There is an art of finding one's direction in the lower regions by the memory of what you saw higher up. When you can no longer see, one can at least still know."

"Corporate America's love affair with debt is driven by a heavy subsidy, courtesy of the federal tax code. ...the interest that corporations pay on their debt is deductible on their federal taxes....debt-financed investments are cheaper than equity....This creates a bias by corporations toward debt...."

Steven M Davidoff

"...the wealth of a country is most closely correlated with the degree to which the average person shares in the overall growth of the economy."

Adam Davidson on Daron Acemoglu book Why Nations Fail.

"Hubris syndrome is a disorder of the possession of power, particularly power which has been associated with overwhelming success, held for a period of years and with minimal constraint on the leader."

Jonathan Davidson

Paul Davies:

"...bringing information into physics cracks open a door to a scientific revolution that is only today starting to unfold.

...think of entropy as ignorance...

...information is about what you know, and entropy is about what you don't know...

Szilard's demon, engine...

"There is plenty of room at the bottom for novel physics to operate in a manner hitherto undetected..."

Davies, Robert USU:

"...it is not for us to say that such change is not possible."

"Perhaps the great virtue of the scientific method is not that it is smart ...but that it is slow and careful."

William Davies

Leonardo da Vinci quotations:

"Can you accept there that there may be certain realities beyond the limits of your comprehension?" Captain Janeway, StarTrek Voyager Four, #179, 1997

"I cannot accept that – and I would be fooled." says Leonardo.

"Ostinato Rigore," Italian for persistent rigor. ..via Donaldson

"I am not to be accused of idleness."

"Do you not know that our soul is composed of harmony?"

"I have been hindered neither by avarice nor negligence, but simply by want of time."

"Even though I may not know, like them, how to cite the authors, it is a much greater and more worthy thing to bring to bear the results of experience, teacher of their teachers. These puffed up, pompous fellows get about clothed and adorned not by their own efforts but by those of others; and to me they won't allow the benefit of my own exertions; and if they despise me as an inventor, how much more blameworthy are they who are not inventors but merely flourishers and retailers of the work of others."

"Whoever in discussion adduces authority uses not intellect but memory."

"There are men who deserve to be called nothing but passages for food because nothing else is served by them.

Intellectual passion drives out sensuality.

...my subjects require for their exposition experience rather than the words of others.

The desire to know is natural to good men.

Every action in nature takes place in the shortest possible way.

I never tire of being useful.

"Surrounding things transmit their images to the senses and the senses transfer them to the Sensation. Sensation sends them to the Common Sense, and by it they are stamped upon the memory."

Do not mock me, reader, if we here make great leaps from subject to subject.

Here is revealed the experience that gives birth to certainty.

"If you are mindful that old age has wisdom for its food, you will so exert yourself in youth that your old age will not lack sustenance."

"Although human genius through various inventions makes instruments corresponding to the same ends, it will never discover an invention more beautiful nor more ready nor more economical than nature because in her inventions nothing is lacking and nothing is superfluous."

"Remember that your bird should have no other model than the bat,"

"Learning without a liking for it stills the mind and retains nothing that it takes in."

"For in truth great love is born of great knowledge of the thing loved."

"Now do you not see that the eye embraces the beauty of the whole world?"

"Do not scorn me so! I am not poor. He is poor, rather, who desires many things."

"The truth has such excellence that by praising little things it makes them noble."

"All our knowledge has its origin in our perceptions."

"Painting is born of nature."

"Make yourself a master of perspective, then acquire perfect knowledge of the proportions of men and other animals."

"A painter above all must keep his mind as clear as the surface of a mirror."

"just as iron rusts from disuse...so our intellect wastes unless it is kept in use."

"The water you touch in a river is the last of that which has passed, and the first of that which is coming. Thus it is with time present."

There shall be wings!
If the accomplishment be not for me, 'tis for some other.

"The desire to know is natural to good men."

"Study the science of art and the art of science."

"Saper Vedere—knowing how to see"

"No human investigations can be called true science without going through mathematical tests."

"Learn diligence before speedy execution."

"Once you have tasted flight you will walk the Earth with your eyes toward the sky. For there you have been and there you long to return."

If you would be healthy, observe this advice:
Eat only when hungry, and let light fare suffice.
Chew all your food well, and this rule always follow:
Well cooked and simple be all that you swallow.
On leaving the table, a good posture keep,
And after your luncheon do not yield to sleep.

Let little and often be your rule for wine,
But not between meals or when waiting to dine.
Visits to the privy should not be postponed...
as quoted by Michael White

"Experiments never deceive. It is our judgment that deceives itself because it expects results which experiments refuse."

"The grandest of all books, I mean the Universe, stands open before our eyes."

"...the more you write at length, minutely, the more you will confuse the mind of the reader."

Strive to preserve your health in which you will be the more successful the more you are wary of physicians."

...that deceptive opinion by means of which...a living is made from fools." (on astrologers)

When besieged by ambitious tyrants, I find a means of offence and defense in order to preserve the chief gift of nature, which is liberty.

While I thought I was learning how to live, I was really learning how to die."

....confused things kindle the mind to great inventions."

Do not interfere with matters of the eyes trying to get them through the ears.

da vinci on deathbed: "Tell me, did anything get done?"

"Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication."

"do not scorn me so! I am not poor. He is poor, rather, who desires many things."

"Constancy. Not who begins but he who perseveres."

quoted by da Vinci in Windsor codex – from Dante's Inferno:

Lying in a featherbed will not bring you fame,
nor staying beneath the quilt,
and he who uses up his life without achieving fame
leaves no more vestige of himself on earth
than smoke in the air or foam upon the water."

Dante via Kemp as Mona Lisa influence?:

"Such things appear in her aspect
As show the joys of Paradise,
I mean in her eyes and her sweet smile,
For Love draws them there as to his place.
They overwhelm this intellect of ours,
As a ray of light does weak vision."

Da Vinci via Steve Allen: Meeting of Minds, Shows 21, 22:

Anyone who relies on authority is using his memory, not his understanding.
The act of investigation – understanding – became the powerful emotional experience.
The paintings were commissioned. Only my sketches were created with total freedom.
...arriving at the opening of as great cavern t...there was suddenly awakened in me two emotions, fear and longing – fear of the dark threatening cave, and longing to see whether some marvelous thing lay inside.

"There are things in this world that I understand and you don't."

Captain Janeway to Leonardo, StarTrek Voyager Concerning Flight
'My mind would be too small.'

Leonardo in response to Capt Janeway's sparrow question.

from Paracelsus, 1530s quoted by Leonardo:

"He who wishes to explore Nature must tread her books with his feet. Writing is learned from letters but Nature from land to land. One Land, one page. This is the Codex Naturae, thus must its pages be turned."

Stefan Klein on Leonardo:

"A good scientist approaches nature the way a caricaturist approaches the features of a politician: Both simplify and overdraw their objects until the essence clearly emerges."

"...science is the business of disengaging yourself from the obvious."

Even the most self-assured spirits can hesitate to wage a solitary battle against the universally accepted dogmas promoted by the renowned scholars of their era."

...his notebooks repeatedly referred to the destruction of nature by man."

We want answers; he posed questions.

Driven by curiosity, he worked for the sheer pleasure of understanding the world."

"Leonardo was always short of paper."

Michael White

"...never, never underestimate Leonardo da Vinci."

Mark E Rosheim

"...the sole evidence of a security leak from the future appears to be the notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci."

Arthur C Clarke (in Sam Magruder)

"In the course of philosophizing on nature...Leonardo formed such heretical ideas that no religion could be reconciled with them; evidently he wanted to be a philosopher more than a Christian."

"The heavens often rain down the richest gifts on human beings, but sometimes with lavish abundance, they bestow upon a single individual beauty, grace, and ability so that he surpasses all other men."

Giorgio Vasari

"...the marker of an old man in exile, prey to the random offerings of memory."

"The cage is empty; the mind has flown."

Charles Nicholl on Leonardo's aging

"Mystery to Leonardo was a shadow, a smile and a finger pointing into darkness."

"...the most relentlessly curious man in history."

Kenneth Clark

"No other artist bequeathed so copious a record of his thoughts and yet told us so little of himself."

Daniel J Boorstin

end of da Vinci quotes Da Vinci:

"...he is thinking of the end before he has made a beginning."

Pope Leo X on da Vinci

end da Vinci

Davis, Angela:

"We have to talk about a complete and total change in the structures of this society because that's the only way that a concept like academic freedom is going to be made relevant. We have to go to the streets."

"freedom is not simply the goal of liberation, it begins with liberation."

"I treasure this time, because it means I get to see that the work that was done 50 and 60 years ago really mattered, even though there were moments when all of us felt it was in vain."

Angela Davis

Davis, Emma:

"It felt you were wrapping yourself up in this blanket of all of this misery and darkness."

"The nation-state is a political fiction which perpetuates anarchy and is the breeding ground of war.... We, the people, want the peace which only a world government can give. The sovereign states you represent divide us and lead us to the abyss of total war."

"...the system of exclusive nation-states poses the greatest single threat to humanity."

"...inalienable - incapable of being transferred to any other person or authority."

Garry Davis

"We seceded to rid ourselves of the rule of the majority."

Jefferson Davis

Davis Michael:

"Let's be realistic, demand the impossible."

"Time isn't the main thing. It's the only thing."

Miles Davis

Davis, Pete:

"Infinite Browsing Mode...this is the defining characteristic of my generation..."

"[Americans] are displaying, as one commentator has noted, the weakness of a people who lack both the stoicism to endure the pandemic and the fortitude to defeat it."

Wade Davis

"...a place of such poverty...people adorn their lives with their imaginations."

Wade Davis re: Haiti

on Davos: mayor of London, rtoot, once attended Davos only to dismiss it as "a constellation of egos involved in massive mutual orgies of adulation."

Dawes, Robyn:

"We're the primates whose cognitive capacity shuts down in the absence of a story."

Dawkins on Memes, Foreward to Blackmore bk, 1999:
mimetic engineering.

...the meme might one day be developed into a proper hypothesis of the human mind.
The real unit of natural selection was any kind of *replicator*, any unit of which copies are made, with occasional errors...

[Blackmore is] a psychologist and sceptical investigator of the paranormal: superstition and near-death experience.

Blackmore: 'Imagine a world full of brains, and far more memes that can possibly find homes. Which memes are more likely to find a safe home and get passed on again? ..'
memeplexes.

Religions may be the most convincing examples of memeplexes.

...meme is a monosyllable similar to gene...

Chinese junk meme [origami]...

Memes travel longitudinally down generations, but they travel horizontally, too, like viruses in an epidemic...

There is even a new religion...called the 'Church of Virus', complete with its own list of Sins and Viruses, and its own patron saint (Saint Charles Darwin, canonized as 'perhaps the most influential memetic engineer...

Brodie, Lynch book refs

Oxford English Dict. definition, via Blackmore: Meme. An element of a culture that may be considered to be passed on by non-genetic means, especially imitation.

...the entity that might play the role of gene in the transmission of words, ideas, faiths, mannerisms and fashions.

"“Religion teaches you to be satisfied with nonanswers. It's a sort of crime against childhood.”

“If you look up at the Milky Way through the eyes of Carl Sagan, you get a feeling in your chest of something greater than yourself. And it is. But it's not supernatural.”

Insofar as I show hostility to alternatives, superstition and so on, it's because they are sapping education and depriving young people of the true glory of the scientific world view ...It's tragic to see children being led into dark, poky little corners of medieval superstition....

It would be very surprising if there wasn't a genetic basis to the psychological predispositions which make people vulnerable to religion.... seeing agency rather than boring old natural forces may have been programmed into our brains.”

“Three imaginary readers looked over my shoulder while I was writing...”

Intelligent life ... comes of age when it first works out the reason for its own existence...

...faith seems to me to qualify as a kind of mental illness.”

from God Delusion:

“I picture the relative brevity of life by imagining a laser-thin spotlight creeping along a gigantic ruler of time. Everything before or after the spotlight is shrouded in the darkness of the dead past, or the darkness of the unknown future.”

“When we ask about the survival value of anything, we may be asking the wrong question...

the cargo cults of the South Pacific...provide a fascinating contemporary model for the way religions spring up from almost nothing...cult...

...the 'imaginary friend' phenomenon of childhood...

Twain via Dawkins:

'I do not fear death. I had been dead for billions and billions of years before I was born, and had not suffered the slightest inconvenience from it.'

see Bertrand Russell, When I die quote.

Richard Dawkins

"...the sheer aesthetic excitement of understanding why we exist is among the highest experiences the human mind is privileged to enjoy."

"Science is the poetry of reality."

"an alpha-male in the sky..."

"...the odd thing about tradition is that the longer it's been going the more people seem to take it seriously...as though the passage of time takes something that was just made up and turns it into what people believe as a fact...."

We are all atheists about most of the gods that societies have ever believed in. Some of us just go one god further.

religion is a dangerous virus infection of children child abuse
secular schools lead to greater separation ...to a different species!
We are privileged to be alive."

"The feeling of awed wonder that science can give us is one of the highest experiences of which the human psyche is capable. ..

The genes of a species can be thought of as a description of ancestral worlds...

In Intro to Bronowski, The Ascent of Man:

drawing of the baby in the womb introduced the television version of The Ascent of Man:

Man is unique not because he does science, and he is unique not because he does art, but because science and art equally are expressions of his marvellous plasticity of mind.

'Knowledge ... is an unending adventure at the edge of uncertainty.'

care, the gaiety, the effrontery. The monuments are supposed to commemorate
in the end the man they commemorate is the builder.

the essence of science: ask an impertinent question, and you are on the way to a pertinent answer.

The University is a Mecca to which students come with something less than perfect faith. It is important that students bring a certain ragamuffin, barefoot irreverence to their studies; they are not here to worship what is known but to question it.

Science is the poetry of reality.

end Dawkins intro to Ascent of Man

end Richard Dawkins

"There must be a way of coming down the hill, of de-escalating ... The only solution is not to give us more arms for our security, but to give us more security so we can have less arms."

Gen. Moshe Dayan

"It's a decision made with conviction, but not full understanding."

Daniel Day-Lewis, on retiring

"Scientists...have discovered a vast source of ... wealth...the treasure of discovery. The endless pleasure of asking questions and seeking answers – and it is there for the taking."

David Deamer

"...we've given people a way to shout back, and we listen...they don't even have to shout anymore."

"You've got to start from where you are, not from where you wish you were."

Howard Dean

"You've got to live fast. Death comes early."

"If a man can bridge the gap between life and death...if he can live on after he's dead, then maybe he's a great man."

"Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today."

"Death. It's the only thing left to respect. It's the one inevitable, undeniable truth. Everything else can be questioned. But death is truth. In it lies the only nobility for man, and beyond it, the only hope.

I also became close to nature, and am now able to appreciate the beauty with which this world is endowed."

...acting is the most logical way for people's neuroses to manifest themselves, in this great need we all have to express ourselves.

He had the greatest of intellectual qualities - curiosity about everything.

said Roy Schatt on
James Dean see jamesdean.com

"The truth will emerge ..."
John Dean

"..revisionist history is a hallmark of authoritarians."
a despotic crime boss rules over the world's most populous country at the same time a shallow,
self-obsessed president leads the country with the world's biggest economy.

Chris Deaton

"I wish that every human life might be pure transparent freedom."
"The present is not a potential past; it is the moment of choice and action,"
Simone de Beauvoir

"Our health is only as safe as our democracy is strong;
our democracy is strong only as long as our voices are loud."
Robert DeBirk, HEAL Utah 2013 breakfast

"I knew this would happen."
Arnaud de Borchgrave Tombstone draft death

"As Michel Foucault pointed out in his detailed study of the mechanisms of power, nothing suits power so well as extreme individualism. In fact, he explains, political and corporate interests aim at nothing less than "individualization," since it is far easier to manipulate a collection of discrete and increasingly independent individuals than a community. Guns undermine just that - community. Their pervasive, open presence would sow apprehension, suspicion, mistrust and fear, all emotions that are corrosive of community and civic cooperation. To that extent, then, guns give license to autocratic government.
FIRMIN DEBRABANDER

"I am for socialism because I am for humanity. . . . Money constitutes no proper basis of civilization."
"The working class who fight the battles, the working class who make the sacrifices, the working class who shed the blood, the working class who furnish the corpses, the working class have never yet had a voice in declaring war."
"While there is a lower class, I am in it; while there is a criminal element, I am of it; while there is a soul in prison, I am not free."

Eugene Debs

"Music is the space between notes."
"There is no theory. You merely have to listen. Pleasure is the law."
Claude Debussy

"...we, the local leaders of the world, have many tools, more than we may have in fact realized, and we must use them boldly even as our national governments hesitate."
Bill de Blasio, at Vatican Mayor's conference

French philosopher Guy Debord, who wrote that, if pre-capitalism was about 'being', and capitalism about 'having', in late-capitalism what matters is only 'appearing'—appearing rich, happy, thoughtful, cool and cosmopolitan. via HOSSEIN DERA KHSHAN

DeChristopher

"Maybe Greed and Competition are not the best values upon which to build our civilization. We've already as a nation decided that the people in Appalachia are expendable – those people have to be sacrificed.

Sometimes the truth isn't very nice."

...the cowardice of the environmental movement.

what level of injustice is it going to take to fight back? What is the next group of people to be sacrificed. Who will be the next scapegoats?

Climate change is a war against people – a war against the young.

Tim deChristopher

"leadership is embodied not in one's ability to control a situation, but in one's courage to engage with and relate to a situation...acknowledging that some things are impossible can help expand the realm of what is possible....

Tim DeChristopher

The reality is not that I lack respect for the law; it's that I have greater respect for justice. Where there is a conflict between the law and the higher moral code that we all share, my loyalty is to that

higher moral code. I know Mr Huber disagrees with me on this. He wrote that "The rule of law is the bedrock of our civilized society, not acts of 'civil disobedience' committed in the name of the cause of the day." That's an especially ironic statement when he is representing the United States of America; a place where the rule of law was created through acts of civil disobedience. Since those bedrock acts of civil disobedience by our founding fathers, the rule of law in this country has

continued to grow closer to our shared higher moral code through the civil disobedience that drew attention to legalized injustice. The authority of the government exists to the degree that the rule of

law reflects the higher moral code of the citizens, and throughout American history, it has been civil disobedience that has bound them together.

The areas with the richest fossil fuel resources, whether coal in West Virginia and Kentucky, or oil in Louisiana and Mississippi, are the areas with the lowest standards of living. In part, this is a necessity of the industry. The only way to convince someone to blow up their backyard or poison their water is to make sure they are so desperate that they have no other option.

But it is also the nature of the economic model. Since fossil fuels are a limited resources, whoever

controls access to that resource in the beginning gets to set all the terms. They set the terms for their workers, for the local communities, and apparently even for the regulatory agencies. A renewable energy economy is a threat to that model. Since no one can control access to the sun or

the wind, the wealth is more likely to flow to whoever does the work of harnessing that energy, and

therefore to create a more distributed economic system, which leads to a more distributed political

system. It threatens the profits of the handful of corporations for whom the current system works, but our question is which segment of the public are you tasked with protecting. I am here today because I have chosen to protect the people locked out of the system over the profits of the corporations running the system.

I will continue to confront the

system that threatens our future. Given the destruction of our democratic institutions that once gave

citizens access to power, my future will likely involve civil disobedience. Nothing that happens here today will change that. I don't mean that in any sort of disrespectful way at all, but you don't have that authority. You have authority over my life, but not my principles. Those are mine alone.

At this point of unimaginable threats on the horizon, this is what hope looks like. In these times of a morally bankrupt government that has sold out its principles, this is what patriotism looks like. With countless lives on the line, this is what love looks like, and it will only grow. The choice you are making today is what side are you on.

"People fighting for a liveable future will not be discouraged or deterred by anything that happens in this courtroom today..."

Tim

opher

SL Trib editorial: 7-27-2011: Justice denied:

"This is not justice but an unconscionable injustice."

"...sometimes the truth isn't very nice, but it has to be said anyway."

"...leadership is no place for a coward." to Faust, President of Harvard

Tim deChristopher

activism ... the actions of those who lack authority through the traditional power structure yet still believe that they can shape the society around them. ... activism is an act of faith in our fellow human beings. The greater the risk and sacrifice involved in the activism, the greater the faith required in each other....

The Left has been ordering off a menu written by the Right....

deChristopher

"There's no safety in silence."

"...if the people in our judicial system can't recognize the humanity of the people whose fates they are deciding and still do their jobs, it means that our judicial system is inhumane by definition. If you can't see people as people and still exercise justice, then our system must not exercise justice." on Judge Benson
it's really hard to change the world when your first priority is making sure that the little world around yourself doesn't change.

"If you want to shift the balance, if you want to tilt that scale, you have to go to the edge and push. You have to go beyond what people consider to be reasonable, and push."

"I thought I was sacrificing my freedom, but instead I was grabbing on to my freedom and refusing to let go of it for the first time."

Dechristopher

"We know that every new fossil fuel infrastructure will lead to another mass grave somewhere in the world. We don't know where that mass grave will be, we don't know who will fill that mass grave, but we know that this mass grave that Spectra is digging here today, this one is ours."

Unitarian talk 8-11-2013

"Utah progressives are self-oppressive - fear, shame, short-term thinking....political shame - like all shame - is self-reinforcing."

"We all do better when we all do better." Jim Hightower

"We all do better when we are greedy and treat each other as crap." paraphrasing Paul Ryan

"...gets more complicated every day, to learn how to live and love with a dying world and a broken society."

from book Wrenched interview:

"Abbey... planted seeds in my head a long time ago, and my thoughts grew and grew until finally I couldn't hold them in anymore...his writings kind of lit a fire in me.

... we should feel as passionately as he did, that we should take it as personally as he did, and that we should get as angry as he did."

end deChristopher

"...extrinsic tangible rewards undermine intrinsic motivations."

Edward Deci

"A university president should ... provide a physically safe and intellectually unsafe, exciting, and stimulating environment where any mind may think critically and develop to its fullest."

Anne Cullimore Decker

Daniel Defoe, ..Plague Year:

...The Danger of Immediate Death to ourselves, took away all Bonds of Love, all Concern for one another."

"Fear of danger is ten thousand times more terrifying than danger itself."

Daniel Defoe

Patriotism is when love of your country comes first; nationalism, when hate for people other than your own comes first.

Charles de Gaulle

De Gennes, Pierre-Giles:

"Every one of us has a treasure of images caught in glimpses but never forgotten."

"theoretician of the tangible" blobs nets grids 'reptation' wetting scaling

from NYT obit: 'he was able to take solutions from one field of physics and show by analogy how they could solve entirely different problems.'

In Nobel address, speech: "What do we mean by soft matter? Americans prefer to call it "complex fluids". This is a rather ugly name, which tends to discourage the young students. But it does, indeed, bring in two of the major features:

"1) Complexity. We may, in a certain primitive sense, say that modern biology has proceeded from studies on simple model systems (bacteria) to complex multicellular organisms (plants, invertebrates, vertebrates). Similarly, from the explosion of atomic physics in the first half of this century, one of the outgrowths is soft matter, based on polymers, surfactants, liquid crystals, and also on colloidal grains.

"2) Flexibility. I like to explain this through one early polymer experiment, initiated by the Indians of the Amazon basin. They collected the sap from the hevea tree, put it on their foot, let it "dry" for a short time. And, behold, they have a boot.

"From a microscopic point of view, the starting point is a set of independent, flexible polymer chains. The oxygen from the air builds in a few bridges between the chains, and this brings in a spectacular change. We shift from a liquid to a network structure which can resist tension - what we now call a rubber (in French: caoutchouc, a direct transcription of the Indian word). What is striking in this experiment is the fact that a very mild chemical action has induced a drastic change in mechanical properties - a typical feature of soft matter."

from Brochard obit: "Every one of us has a treasure of images caught in glimpses but never forgotten..."

'With his strikingly simple yet pioneering ideas, Pierre-Gilles de Gennes drew 'white lines in large strokes' that defined the physics of soft matter ...'

'De Gennes pursued his research with extraordinary imagination, insatiable curiosity and an ability to grasp facts rapidly. But he also gave his time to others and helped them develop their ideas. A keen ambassador of science to the public...'

from *Fragile Objects*, 1996:

"I am not at all certain ... that developed human societies constitute a stable form of life...

For lack of motivating endeavors, our societies shrivel and degenerate into nationalistic, ideological, or religious sectarianism...

...in Western societies ... the objectives presented to our youth are mediocre, centered as they are on comfort and leisure...

a general collusion between teachers and students, each helping the other cut the branch on which they both sit...

I am constantly astounded by how little common sense recently degreed engineers have...

Ignorance of the real world causes grave distortions...there is too much ignorance all around..

The French over estimate the power of the mind...
To be fed images, even carefully selected ones, encourages passivity...
A democracy cannot function without educating its citizens... Two of the most pressing problems facing our world are the birth rate and the environment... the information dealing with these issues is both mediocre and dangerous...
I have an infinite amount of respect for school teachers...
The scientist is not a demiurge; he is no more dependable than anyone else when it comes to moral, political, or judicial issues...
Eventually, we were able to propose a few ideas which were novel precisely because we came from a different world...
[quoting Feynman 'Theory is the best guess']...
Soft matter is exactly like the clay of the sculptor, which, through an extremely weak action, can be changed, shaped, and organized...
[some book section titles]:
Know when to stop, know when to switch.
The duty to inform, not the power to decide.
More conscience calls for more science.

end de Gennes

Degler, Carl:

"If we historians fail to provide a nationally dented history, others less critical and less informed will take over the job for us."

"Ignorance of certain subjects is a great part of wisdom."
Hugo De Groot

"Kuznets justified the perpetual motion theory of economic growth ... and got a Nobel Prize for it... wealth-care industry."
John deJong

"Once an institution is established, it must learn to change without continuing to grow. A culture of learning must pervade the institution."
G Delacote, Exec Dir, The Exploratorium, 1998.

Delbanco, Andrew The Death of Satan, 1995 pdf:

"Time is a relentless solvent of memory.
... the wisdom of mourning as a regimen preparatory for the resumption of life.
... evil tends to recede into the background hum of modern life ... a uniquely efficient lubricant for moral evasiveness.
... there was once such a concept as sin ... it has faded."

See The Manufacture of Evil bk:

"... malefactors ... no longer boast horns and wear suits with tails, but rather three-piece suits and sometimes turtleneck sweaters of cashmere wool or magenta blouses of tailored silk." Ref. 10, p. 10.

quoting Thomas Harris' The Silence of the Lambs, mad doctor:

"Nothing happened to me, Officer Starling. I Happened. You can't reduce me to a set of influences. You've given up good and evil for behaviorism, Officer Starling. You've got everybody in moral dignity pants - nothing is ever anybody's fault. Look at me, Officer Starling. Can't you stand to say I'm evil?"

"... if evil ... escapes the reach of our imagination, it will have established dominion over us all."

review of book on Serling:

'the homeopathic principle that small doses of fear might ward off bigger fears.'

see Serling quotes.

"Half the world is redoing its kitchens, the other half is starving."

"What we excrete comes back to consume us."

"Language is inseparable from the world that provokes it."

Don DeLillo

"I am still afraid of entropy. An organization that does not evolve is condemned to die."
Angelos Delivorrias

De la Rosa dissertation 2015 Memes:

No longer the abstract notion of a cultural gene that Dawkins (2006) introduced in the late 1970s, memes have now become synonymous with a particular brand of vernacular language that internet users engage by posting, sharing and remixing digital content as they communicate jokes, emotions and opinions.

...the language of Internet Memes is understood as visual, succinct and capable of inviting active engagement by users who encounter digital content online that exhibits said characteristics. the dissertation was crafted as a journey from the academic to the whimsical, from the lecture hall to the image board (where Internet Memes were born), from the written word to the remixed image as a visual language that is equal parts form and content that emerges and culminates in a concluding chapter composed almost entirely of popular Internet Meme types.

An online component can be found at <http://memededucation.org/>

"Americans do not need to
ask permission to assemble. The First Amendment is a right, not a privilege."
Kevin DeLuca

"[Online] Users tend to aggregate in communities of interest, which causes reinforcement and fosters confirmation bias, segregation, and polarization. This comes at the expense of the quality of the information and leads to proliferation of biased narratives fomented by unsubstantiated rumors, mistrust, and paranoia."

Del Vicario, et al PNAS 2016 pdf

"...economists have made extraordinary errors over the past several decades...
...economics is ... an art that is shrouded in uncertainty, imprecision, mystery, and error."

George F DeMartino, The Economist's Oath, 2011

Deming, W. Edward:

"it is not necessary to change. Survival is not mandatory."

"Steinbeck's greatest books are an antidote to - if not a blatant call to resist - the tidal wave of vain posturing, fake news, obfuscation, debasement of language, and outright lies that seem to be the stock market in trade of our previously callous and incompetent current administration."

Robert DeMott

"I look to push myself to the fear level."

Judi Dench

Deneen, Patrick:

Why Liberalism Failed:

"...democracy is the most demanding regime, given its demands for civic *virtue*. The cultivation of virtue requires the thick presence of virtue-forming and virtue-supporting institutions, but these are precisely the institutions and practices that liberalism aims to hollow and eviscerate in the name of individual liberty. In a deep irony, liberalism claims legitimacy based upon democratic consent, yet it ultimately hollows out the prospects for a functioning democracy."

via Yanofsky - Deneen suggested to me that Catholicism was becoming the religion of the intelligentsia. The president, the speaker of the House and six of the nine Supreme Court justices are Catholic (a seventh was raised Catholic), along with a number of prominent writers, many of

them converts. "It's a tradition that gives you the resources," Deneen said, "for how to think outside of liberal categories."

"No one likes criticism. Not you, nor I, nor God. But those who criticize you, in a soft voice, in private, are your friends."

"The only simple subjects are the ones you don't know much about"

Noel de Nevers

Deng, Xiaoping:

"...an open window brings both fresh air and flies."

Dennett:

"...parasites can hijack brains of hosts...

Islam means 'surrender' - submission of self-interest to the will of Allah...

It's ideas - not worms - that hijack our brains...

Most people have their brains hijacked by parasitic ideas...

There are a lot of ideas to die for...they're infectives...

...we need to understand the conditions of infection...

secret of happiness...the subordination of genetic interests to other interests...

a meme is an information packet with attitude...

...we're wiping out native peoples with dangerous ideas...infectious dangerous memes...

...there are a lot of toxic ideas...spreading...wiping out whole cultures..like our germs wiping out cultures not immune to those germs...

You can never annihilate the germs...avirulence."

See:

https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_dennett_on_dangerous_memes/transcript?language=en#t-785583

from Breaking the Spell:

pp328 ffr Toxic Memes:

Kathleen Norris Native Evil (see pdf)

small-town evil

From Bacteria to Bach and Back: on Amazon K Sample thru Chap 3.

I consider this book to be ... my grateful attempt to pay my tuition...This is what I think I've learned...

...evolution is a process that depends on amplifying things that almost never happen...

...the MacCready Explosion...

D'Arcy Thompson famously said, 'Everything is the way it is because it got that way.'

...a mystery solved is even more ravishing than the ignorant fantasies it replaces...

Hofstadter ...Strange Loop

Cartesian Gravity

We tend to underestimate the strength of the forces that distort our imaginations...

now via ML:

"Occam's Broom - with which one sweeps inconvenient facts under the rug."

Daniel C Dennett

Denoncourt, Serge:

"...you can talk about anything if you have a way to talk about it."

De Puy, John:

"These days when I go out to meditate, I can smell the earth dying."

from Wrenched 2020 interview:

'Ed Abbey...editor...El Crepusculo de la Libertad, Taos, NM....bill boards north of Taos...

One day Ed and I decided: Enough. We went out with chainsaws and cut them all down... Ed said these actions were the beginning of what became the Monkey Wrench Wang and called it 'night work'.

"Most men are disguised by sobriety...

Murder is an art; but not all murders are works of art and not all murderers are artists...

Thomas De Quincy

"We can start all the organic farms we want, but we couldn't stop Congress from declaring pizza sauce a vegetable."

'With wise self-protection and tactful self-suppression, she directs our gaze to where it belongs: the work itself.' on Ferrante's work.

William Deresiewicz

"The chief cause of our errors is to be found in the prejudices of our childhood."

Descartes

Deseret News:

"It's no secret that the world will have to make the transition from fossil fuels to something more sustainable." 8-13-2013

"...the world ought to turn its attention to the development of wind, solar, geothermal and other alternative sources for energy,..."

9-30-2013

de Toqueville:

When the past no longer illuminates the future, the spirit walks in darkness.

"Can it be believed that the democracy which has overthrown the feudal system and vanquished kings will retreat before tradesmen and capitalists?"

"...in every democracy, the people get the government they deserve."

Alexis de Tocqueville

Alexis de Tocqueville... 1848 [days before the French insurrection]: ...we are sleeping on a volcano...the earth is trembling...Can you not feel the wind of revolution in the air?

Alexis de Tocqueville long ago:

"They owe nothing to any man, they expect nothing from any man; they acquire the habit of always considering themselves as standing alone, and they are apt to imagine that their whole destiny is in their own hands. Thus not only does democracy make every man forget his ancestors, but it hides his descendants and separates his contemporaries from him; it throws him back forever upon himself alone and threatens in the end to confine him entirely within the solitude of his own heart."

de toqueville

"America is great because she is good. When it ceases to be good, it will cease to be great."

de Toqueville

"A man's admiration for absolute government is proportionate to the contempt he feels for those around him."

"...the majority undertakes to supply a multitude of ready-made opinions for the use of individuals, who are thus relieved from the necessity of forming opinions of their own."

"Lawyers in the United States form a power that...envelops society as a whole, penetrates into each of the classes that compose it, works in secret, acts constantly on it without its knowing, and in the end models it to its own desires."

Those living in the instability of a democracy have the constant image of chance before them, and, in the end, they come to like all those projects in which chance plays a part...because they like the emotions evoked."

Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, 1840

DeVega, Chauncy:

"Republicans and their allies are dedicated to their cause. They believe themselves to be just and noble,... on the correct side of history. They will never admit defeat. They will never repent. To an increasing degree, they are willing to die or kill for their cause."

Primates are made to be social, made to care about one another and made to get along, and the same applies to us. Civilisation does all sorts of great things for us, but does so by co-opting natural abilities, not by inventing anything new. It works with what we have to offer, including an age-old capacity for peaceful coexistence.

Frans de Waal

"...the seeds for a moral order seem far older than our species. Empathy, sympathy, reciprocity, fairness, and other basic tendencies were built into humanity's moral order based on our primate psychology. We did not develop this order from scratch, but had a huge helping hand – not God's, but Mother Nature's."

"I am wary of anyone whose belief system is the only thing standing between them and repulsive behavior."

M. de Waal

"How did ... my people, multiple generations of us — manage to look evil in the face every day and not see what was right there in front of us?"

Charles Dew

"Democracy begins in conversation."

John Dewey told us that "[d]emocracy has to be born anew every generation, and education is its midwife."

John Dewey

"It hints at dark forces, at the obscure, unfathomable depths of human motivation.

If we understand the factors that condition people to do wrong ... then presumably we will be able to alter them.

... the label 'evil' often functions as an intellectual and ethical shrug of the shoulders. We do not need to question or ponder any longer: we just know that this human being, or that social or religious group, has an irrational commitment to chaos and moral mayhem. ...we must simply contain those who hold [that point of view], marginalize them, possibly even eradicate them."

"The urge to be cruel and to destroy is an inbuilt propensity of some human beings."

"[Can] the defeat of moral evil ... be made compatible with our modern commitment to freedom and rational insight."

"Evil is somehow chosen, not a matter of lapse or default."

"... freedom is the last hinge on which man turns, a highest possible pinnacle, which allows nothing further to be imposed upon it; thus man bows to no authority, and acknowledges no obligations, where his freedom is not respected." quoting Hegel

Peter Dews, The Idea of Evil

'You can be mad at him, but we can't keep making this about him. People like him will exist. That's just the reality of life. The point is not to give those people all the energy.'

Elecia Dexter

"All advice ends up binary...when it should be shades of grey...communicating uncertainty."

Ranu Dhillon

Diamandis, Marina:

"I don't want to live in a man's world anymore."

"Past societies have destroyed themselves..."

Jared Diamond

"The revenue logic of Facebook is not consistent with the interests of democracy."

"Chinese president Xi Jinping is constructing a neototalitarian Orwellian surveillance state that is more repressive of human liberty than anything we've seen since Mao."

Larry Diamond

"To be right-wing means to support the state in its capacity as enforcer of order and to oppose the state as distributor of wealth and power downward and more equitably in society."

Sara Diamond

DiAngelo, Robin:

[white supremacy is] "the historical and current accumulation of structural power that privileges, centralizes, and elevates white people as a group."

"How can you know something so big, how someone—who goes on national television and says something—and you know it's not true ... whether it's the president or not, you have the responsibility to say no. To pass through this barrier of fear and say no."

Sandra Diaz, a Trump housekeeper, undocumented

Tom Diaz, The Last Gun:

"...the gun industry will dig in as it has always done, and continue to profit from fear and violence - until the very last gun."

"...[a] shrinking pool of aging white men ... are the core of the NRA ..."

"...the gun industry strikes out more and more dangerously, like a wounded rattlesnake in its final throes."

"...gun ownership is declining in America, it is in free fall among younger cohorts."

"...the NRA's legislative program is largely driven by the gun industry's business interests."

"...the NRA's religion is about more than guns. At its core, it's about culture - socioeconomics; race; ethnicity; the modern politics of an old doctrine..."

"Like any religion, the NRA has its gods, commandments and hierarchy," Josh Sugarmann, 1992. see 2012 printing of 1992 book, on order.

"...the gun industry's marketing falls particularly hard on women and children."

"...propagandizing children in the guise of education is used by the NRA in its notorious 'Eddie Eagle' program, a marketing device pawned off as a 'gun safety' program."

"...a direct mail letter must appeal to three base emotions: Fear, Hate and Revenge." Alan Gottlieb.

"...it is unlikely that ... the Framers of the Bill of Rights ...intended to freeze American government two centuries hence at their eighteenth-century level of understanding." Richard A Posner.

end of Diaz

"Knowledge imposes responsibility. If you know something, you have an obligation to act....it is far more comfortable to...ignore what science has to tell us."

Gale Dick

"Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn't go away."

Philip K Dick

I believe that very few men are capable of estimating the immense amount of torture and agony which this dreadful punishment, prolonged for years, inflicts upon the sufferers. . . . I hold this slow and daily tampering with the mysteries of the brain, to be immeasurably worse than any torture of the body: and because its ghastly signs and tokens are not so palpable to the eye and sense of touch as scars upon the flesh; because its wounds are not upon the surface, and it extorts few cries that human ears can hear; therefore I the more denounce it, as a secret punishment which slumbering humanity is not roused up to stay.

Dickens via Gopnik

"...Dickens will teach any writer how to plot and can turn a sentence into an Incantation."

via Donna Leon

end Dickens

Dickerson-Despenza, Erika:

"...an apocalypse makes everything else bubble to the surface."

"Since New York City and Syracuse have an exemption from fracking to protect their water supply, we in the Finger Lakes expect — and demand — the same protection."

DOROTHY DICKIESON

Dickinson, Emily:

"Faith is a fine invention
When gentlemen can see,
But microscopes are prudent
In an emergency."

"That it will never come again
Is what makes life so sweet.
Emily Dickinson

Didion, Joan:

"A place belongs forever to whoever claims it hardest, remembers it most obsessively, wrenches it from itself, shapes it, renders it, loves it so radically that he remakes it in his own image."

"...the sense of sports being the opiate of the people."

"To free us from the expectations of others, to give us back to ourselves - there lies the great, the singular power of self-respect."

"...the heart of darkness lay not in some error of social organization but in man's own blood."

"Make a place available to the eyes, and in certain ways it is no longer available to the imagination."

"Something about a situation will bother me, so I will write a piece to find out what it is that bothers me..."

"Time passes. Memory fades, memory adjusts, memory conforms," she writes, "to what we think we remember."

via Kakutani: writing had always been a means for her to impose order on a threatening and chaotic world... People look "for the sermon in the suicide, for the social or moral lesson in the murder of five. We interpret what we see, select the most workable of the multiple choices. We live entirely, especially if we are writers, by the imposition of a narrative line upon disparate images, by the 'ideas' with which we have learned to freeze the shifting phantasmagoria which is our actual experience."... Didion's utterly distinctive writing style — distinguished by its spareness, its surgical precision, its almost staccato yet incantatory rhythms — was also a tool for containing her often harrowing subject matter, be it her own experiences of loss and grief, reportorial assignments involving murder or war, or the melodramatic situations that the heroines in her novels so often faced...

"You are getting a woman who somewhere along the line misplaced whatever slight faith she ever had in the social contract, in the meliorative principle, she wrote.

"We tell ourselves stories in order to live."

end Joan Didion

DiDonato, Joyce: EDEN, via Scheer Portman,...see CD in iMusic

"When I look at music and the natural world; I see harmony; I see balance; I see all kinds of forces working together to create an ecosystem, to create a symphony, to create an environment where everything has the chance to thrive. So, I've married those two, and I'm putting it out under the invitation to say, in a really simplistic way: What seeds are you planting with your words, with your actions, with your tweets, on your balcony?..."

We are leaving behind a green souvenir in the hands of everybody..."

Scheer, Portman,

Rob Dietz and Dan O'Neill, *Enough is Enough*, 2011:

"Some one is profiting from economic growth, but it's not the world's poor.

Nor is it the average citizen in the wealthy countries."

"...the rising tide is lifting the yachts and swamping the rowboats."

A steady-state economy requires a different kind of monetary system."

...the financial sector ...should account for as small a percentage of total economic activity as possible."

We need to declare a Chapter 11 on the way businesses are currently operating."

"...the tendency to emulate can lead to rapid social change."

Thomas Dietz, in reviewing Robert Frank *Under the Influence*.

diFranco, Annie:

we're all taught how to justify history as it passes by

and it's your world that comes crashing down

when the big boys decide to throw their weight around... via Danah Boyd

Dijkstra, Nadine:

"...brain signals reflecting imagination and signals reflecting reality are completely intermixed in our brain, muddling the distinction between our inner world and the outside world, between reality and fantasy."

...there is no real categorical difference between imagination and reality,... they are subjectively intermixed...

"We do not see things as they are, we see them as we are."

"If we want things to stay as they are, things will have to change."

The Leopard by Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa, via Roger Cohen NYT

"Sometimes you jump off the cliff first, and build your wings on the way down"

Annie Dillard

"...human civilisation ... will self-destruct, producing massive environmental damage, social chaos and megadeath. We are entering a new dark age, with great dieback. The only question that remains is whether we will survive this dark age, and if so, for how much longer."

Craig Dilworth, *Too Smart for our own Good*, 2010, last page.

Dimsdale, Joel E.:

Dark Persuasion: A History of Brainwashing from Pavlov to Social Media

Preface on Heaven's Gate cult:

'...drink some more of the 'vodka medicine' and lay back and relax. After the breathing has slowed down use plastic bag to be sure....

they ingested extra medication (hydrocodone) to make sure.

They all died, and their earthly vehicles were now empty.'

I started this work

out of intellectual curiosity. Little did I suspect that in the archives I would find my colleagues, professional societies, and universities tied up in all this.

coercive persuasion.

to H. G. Wells, who warned that "human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe."

"The cure for anything is salt water: sweat, tears or the sea."

Isak Dinesen

"The YouTube system of recommending the next video and the next video," she said, had created "an ecosystem of hate."

Debora Diniz in YouTube Brazil NYT pdf

Diogenes the Cynic:

"...a cynic is someone who eschewed money, power and fame, and instead sought to live self-sufficiently and in tune with nature." via Rosenblum NYT

Dionne, E J:

"We are supposed to have faith that an invisible hand will eventually put matters right; in the meantime,

we must accept any slap in the face the invisible hand might deliver."

We can seek to control our fate, or we can turn the Invisible Hand into a God who commands us to be helpless."

"American politics has become a bazaar for the very wealthy and for increasingly aggressive corporations. We might consider having candidates wear corporate logos."

"We have less and less to do with each other, meaning that we feel few obligations to each other..."

"...the GOP has treated court appointments the same way machine politicians once treated jobs in city sewer departments: If you have the clout, you use it to place your people. Period."

"...truth and justice demand that you get out of your comfort zone."

E J Dionne Jr.

"Obama is defending a tradition that sees government as an essential actor in the nation's economy, a guarantor of fair rules of competition, a countervailing force against excessive private power, a check on the inequalities that capitalism can produce, and an instrument that can open opportunity for those born without great advantages.

Today's Republicans cast the federal government as an oppressive force, a drag on the economy and an enemy of private initiative."

E J Dionne

Diop, David: At Night all Blood is Black review:

"Literature can be a way of moving people before they turn to rational explanations of history...

I read [historians] the way an academic shouldn't: without taking notes. I wanted what had really made an impression on me to reemerge when I started writing."

"In the end we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught."

Baba Dioum

'in the end we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, and we will understand only what we are taught,'

Baba Dioum of Senegal

"Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world."

Louis Pasteur or Paul Dirac

The goals of active measures are to undermine citizens' trust in government, exploit societal fractures, create distrust in the information environment, blur the lines between reality and fiction, undermine trust among communities, and erode confidence in the democratic process.

Renee DiResta new knowledge data for democracy

"If what you're selling is bullshit, then you need a shovel, and if what you're selling is truth you really only need a teaspoon."
Abigail Disney

"The health of a people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness and their powers as a state depend."
"Justice is truth in action."
Benjamin Disraeli

"We don't completely blame Facebook. The germs are ours, but Facebook is the wind, you know?"
HARINDRA DISSANAYAKE, a presidential adviser in Sri Lanka.

"When telling your life story, make sure that you're the one holding the pen."
Efraim Diveroli

Dixon, Robyn:
on genocide: "They're talking about destroying Ukrainians as a group, Ukraine as a state and as an identity community," Eugene Finkel said. "The argument is we are going to destroy this national community as it exists and create something new that we like instead, no matter how many people we kill in the process."
Robyn Dixon

Gus diZerega: <http://dizerega.com/2015/06/30/turning-the-tables-the-pathologies-and-unrealized-promise-of-libertarianism/>

[Libertarian] terminology uses common words in uncommonly narrow ways.
... Along with 'nonaggression' and the 'individual,' 'private property' is the core principle underlying libertarianism's solutions to all of society's major problems.
... my critique does not reject their principles; it argues that libertarians do not understand them.
... It Usually Begins With Ayn Rand
Rand's depiction of strong creative individuals standing firm in their visions of how life should be lived can be inspiring reading for young people discovering the many hypocrisies in our society.
... Koch Industries is privately held, and as a consequence Charles and David Koch can legitimately be considered responsible for its actions, good and bad alike.
... No matter how sophisticated our questions, we always ask them within a social context that remains largely taken for granted.
... the property rights libertarians rightly identify as necessary for individuals to exercise freedom are socially determined and must exist prior to the market.
... CATO is the most prominent libertarian think tank in the United States. The Koch brothers, Charles and David, who helped start it many years ago, are now seeking to take it over completely. The Kochs have contributed nothing to the organization for years. CATO has survived and prospered on its own. The libertarians who now populate it are fighting back in the name of freedom of thought.
... the chief moral weakness of many libertarians. They appear unable to imaginatively place themselves in the shoes of people unlike themselves. They have a failure in empathy.
... Rand ultimately had no understanding of human rights."

end of di Zerega

"I abandon my party because I am unwilling to abandon my principles."
Djou Congressman Hawaii

"... in North Korea, ordinary life itself is slavery."
Hee-youn Do, see pdf

"...facts can anger people in power...sometimes those wielding such power are not the usual suspects such as Big Brother or Big Business, but self-appointed guardians of the nonpowerful ... activists....

When a motivated group with a playbook of ugly tactics spots a scientific funding they don't like, they can often dominate public discussion in a way that replaces a factual story with a false one."
David Dobbs

Rick Doblin, responding to Huffington Post Gregoire question: Would MDMA-assisted psychotherapy also be helpful for a general population -- not just patients with PTSD? Could this be a reality one day?

at ps17: "Does it last? ... Something fundamentally is changing in people's brains and their emotions through this therapy, and the benefits proceed over time."

"People have such enormous fears and anxieties that get in the way of really hearing and listening. With psychedelics, you can get over these emotional blocks that also block our thinking. Psychedelics can produce a deep reliance on common interests and values."

"The overall goal is to have a more spiritualized humanity that can, instead of ghting each other, address our common challenges, such as climate change and the rise of authoritarianism."

"Telepathy is not real ... But in novels, it is...novels...create the illusion of telepathy."
Cory Doctorow

"The challenge of working with the FDA and working within the medical model is that you're only able to create drugs that treat recognized diseases. ...there are enormous benefits outside the medical model to treat people who don't have a specified disorder -- ... spiritual experiences and personal growth."

"two things must e said about knowledge deniers. Their rationale is always political. And ...they hold in their hand a sacred text for certification."

"The historian will tell you what happened. The novelist will tell you what it felt like."

"Pretending is the brain's work. That's what it does." Andrew in Andrew's Brain by
E L Doctorow

Doerr, Anthony:
from aparable: "Cobwebs at first, cables at death."

"Sustainable technologies are the next big thing...the mother of all markets."
John Doerr

"What we have here is a threat to democracy itself."
William Doherty

Domogatski, Grigori V.:
"You should never miss the chance to ask nature any question. ...You never know what answer you will get."

It suck'd me first, and now sucks thee,
And in this flea our two bloods mingled be
...death is an ascent to a better library."
John Donne

"From the same prolific womb of governmental injustice we breed two classes – paupers and millionaires."
Ignatius Donnelly via Zinn

Donner, Rebecca re: Mildred Harnack:
"Her aim was self-erasure."

“...he can always hide behind the fact that I invented things, and I can always hide behind the fact that something invented could be true.”

Donnersmarck

Donoghue, Emma reviews of her books:

‘Fiction is small solace for history’s grief, but it’s one way to set the record straight...her prose is especially exquisite at depicting ambiguity...Eccentric, untethered genius...Once again, Emma Donoghue finds the light in the darkness.’

Donoghue, Denis:

from NYT obit: his “heightened tone, the lack of hesitation, the thinking aloud as fierce and eloquent activity, and the sense also that this mattered more than anything else mattered — this attempt to analyze and define and almost imitate layers and levels of feeling, of imaginative energy, of tonal nuance....his fascination with the irrational, almost mystical quality, at the heart of the creative process...

standing opposed to both the politicized theories of the left and the traditionalist pieties of the right.”

-- "When we deny our stories, they define us. When we own our stories, we get to write a brave new ending."

— Brené Brown, via book reviewer Diane Donovan

“Listen, Dude. I spent two years behind an M60 machine gun defending, among other things, your right to be a moron about guns.”

Leo in Doonesbury

“...we don’t have to leave the world as it was when we first encountered it.”

Ariel Dorfman

“[Trump] lack of compassion and ability to cause pain without any sense of responsibility, struck me as deeply evil...

[Trump is] a caricature of an actual person, the physical embodiment of the seven deadly sins. He is all about greed, lust, gluttony, wrath, envy, sloth, and pride.

If he was a character in one of my novels, I’m sure he’d read as forced and phony — a total cliché. Maybe this is part of why I have so much trouble creating believable bad guys — I don’t understand how anyone can be so thoroughly devoid of morality without a single redeeming quality. Yet, Trump is that guy.

...men like Lindsay Graham and Mitch McConnell offer up another brand of evil altogether. In many ways, they are far worse than Trump.

Jacqueline Dooley

“In economics, things take longer to happen than you think they will, and then they happen faster than you thought they good.”

Rudi Dornbusch, quoted by Kenneth Rogoff

Dorsey, Jack:

“...in principle I don’t believe anyone should own or run Twitter...Solving for the problem of it being a company however, Elon is the singular solution I trust. I trust his mission to extend the light of consciousness.”

Dorsey, Ray, et al: Ending Parkinson’s Disease on K:
The Parkinson Pandemic...

“America our nation has been beaten by strangers who have turned our language inside out who have taken the clean waters our fathers spoke and made them slimy and foul...

America our nation has been beaten by strangers who have bought the laws and fenced off the meadows and cut down the woods for pulp and turned our pleasant cities into slums and sweated the wealth out of our people."

"Our only hope lies in the frail web of understanding of one person for the pain of another." — John Dos Passos

Dostoyevsky (see also Ornstein):

"In every man ... a demon lies hidden - the demon of rage, the demon of lustful heat at the scream of the tortured victim, the demon of lawlessness let off the chain, the demon of diseases that follow on vice, gout, kidney disease, and so on."

...tears of humanity...

I must have justice.

I hasten to give back my entry ticket

in the Brothers Karamasov

To consider freedom as directly dependent on the number of man's requirements and the extent of their immediate satisfaction shows a twisted understanding of human nature, for such an interpretation only breeds in men a multitude of senseless, stupid desires and habits and endless preposterous inventions." karamasov

"... we care for the weak too. They are sinful and rebellious, but in the end they too will become obedient. They will marvel at us and look on us as gods, because we are ready to endure the freedom which they have found so dreadful and to rule over them - so awful it will seem to them to be free. But we shall tell them that we are Thy servants and rule them in Thy name. We shall deceive them again ... That deception will be our suffering, for we shall be forced to lie."

Dostoyevsky, The Grand Inquisitor quoted by Szasz in Madness.

"The degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons."

"...too much reason is a thorough-going madness."

Dostoyevsky

Jesus came to give people freedom, but that's not what they want. What they really want is to be told what to do and believe, and to be fed.

Dostoyevsky's Grand Inquisitor

Aldous Huxley quoting Ivan '...they have vanquished freedom and done so to make men happy.'

"...evil lies deeper in human beings than our socialist-physicians suppose; that no social structure will eliminate evil; that the human soul will remain as it has always been; that abnormality and sin arise from that soul itself; and, finally, that the laws of the human soul are still so little known, so obscure to science, so undefined, and so mysterious, that there are not and cannot be either physicians or final judges."

via Costica Bradatan see pdf

"The darker the night, the brighter the stars."

by Raskolnikov at end Crime and Punishment:

'He had dreamed that the whole world was doomed to fall victim to some terrible, as yet unknown and unseen pestilence spreading to Europe from the depths of Asia. Everyone was to perish, except for certain, very few, chosen ones. Some new trichinae had appeared, microscopic creatures that lodged themselves in men's bodies. But these creatures were spirits, endowed with reason and will. Those who received them into themselves immediately became possessed and mad. But never, never had people considered themselves so intelligent and unshakeable in the truth as did these infected ones. Never had they thought their judgments, their scientific conclusions, their moral convictions and beliefs more unshakeable. Entire settlements, entire cities and nations would be infected and go mad. Everyone became anxious, and no one understood anyone else; each thought the truth was contained in himself alone, and suffered looking at others, beat his breast, wept, and wrung his hands. They did not know whom or how to judge, could not agree on what to regard as evil, what as good. They did not know whom to accuse, whom to vindicate.'

see New Yorker, David Denby Raskolnikov's Dream.

end Dostoevsky

"Giving 'equal time' to creationism and evolution is like giving equal time to astrology and astronomy ..."

Howard Doughty

"...some of the world's most important problems - such as ... world poverty, climate change and war - can be attributed to ... moral deficits."

Thomas Douglas via Metzinger

"The dominant purpose of the First Amendment was to prohibit the widespread practice of government suppression of embarrassing information."

As nightfall does not come at once, neither does oppression. ..there is a twilight when everything remains seemingly unchanged. And it is in such twilight that we all must be most aware of change in the air, however slight, lest we become unwitting victims of the darkness."

William O. Douglas

"It is our attitude toward free thought and free expression that will determine our fate. There must be no limit on the range of temperate discussion, no limits on thought. No subject must be taboo. No censor must preside..."

William O. Douglas, cited in The Shulgin Index

Frederick Douglass:

"Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them."

Frederick Douglass via Moench

"The fate of the greatest of all modern Republics trembles in the balance. To what cause may we trace our present and deplorable condition?"

Frederic Douglass 1862

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

"If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground, they want the rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, or it may be both... but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

Frederick Douglass

"A heavy and cruel hand has been laid upon us. As a people, we feel ourselves to be not only deeply injured, but grossly misunderstood. Our white countrymen do not know us. They are strangers to our character, ignorant of our capacity, oblivious to our history and progress, and are misinformed as to the principles and ideas that control and guide us as a people. The great mass of American citizens estimates us as being a characterless and purposeless people; and hence we hold up our heads, it at all, against the withering influence of a nation's scorn and contempt."

Frederick Douglass, National Colored Convention, July, 1853

"The whole history of the progress of human liberty shows that all concessions yet made to her august claims have been born of earnest struggle... If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them,

and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress."

"Men are so constituted that they derive their conviction of their own possibilities largely from the estimate formed of them by others. If nothing is expected of a people, that people will find it difficult to contradict that expectation."

"Find out just what the people will submit to and you have found out the exact amount of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them..."

The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress."

Frederick Douglass

"I prayed for 20 years but received no answer until I prayed with my legs."

Frederick Douglass warned, "The life of a nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful and virtuous."

see Zinn pp. 182-3

on Douglass via David Brooks:

'Douglass's genius was his ability to balance his indignation at oppression with his underlying faith in the American project...'

"Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground, they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. ... Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

Frederick Douglass

"To make a contented slave you must make a thoughtless one."

Frederick Douglass

'[Lincoln's] great mission was to accomplish two things: first, to save his country from dismemberment and ruin; and, second, to free his country from the great crime of slavery. To do one or the other, or both, he must have the earnest sympathy and the powerful cooperation of his loyal fellow-countrymen.

Without this primary and essential condition to success his efforts must have been vain and utterly fruitless.[...] Viewed from the genuine abolition ground, Mr. Lincoln seemed tardy, cold, dull, and indifferent; but measuring him by the sentiment of his country, a sentiment he was bound as a statesman to consult, he was swift, zealous, radical, and determined.'

Frederick Douglass via Bard Coll conf. Yale historian

end Frederick Douglass

Ross Douthat:

"Technology really does affect character. Cultures do change from era to era, sometimes for the worse. Particular vices can be encouraged by particular innovations, and thrive in the new worlds that they create."

The idea that modern America is in thrall to self-regard dates back to the 1970s... American self-involvement is actually reaching an apogee in the age of Facebook and Twitter. ... The rituals of social media, it seems, make status-seekers and exhibitionists of us all.

[Weiner's] "partners" existed less to titillate him than to hold up mirrors to his own vanity ... There was a time when fame and influence were supposed to liberate men from such adolescent insecurity.

...in the late '70s, Lasch distinguished modern narcissism from old-fashioned egotism. "...the narcissist depends on others to validate his self-esteem. His innate insecurity can only be overcome "by seeing his 'grandiose self' reflected in the attentions of others, or by attaching himself to those who radiate celebrity, power and charisma."

Facebook and Twitter did not forge the culture of narcissism. But they serve as a hall of mirrors in which it flourishes as never before — a "vast virtual gallery," as Rosen has written, whose self portraits mainly testify to "the timeless human desire for attention."

"...Romney...has managed to run for president for almost five years without taking a single courageous or even remotely interesting position....Vote for Mitt, you know he doesn't believe a word he says.

"It will do America no good to replace the arrogant with the ignorant, the overconfident with the incompetent...We need intelligent leaders with a sense of their own limits, experienced people whose lives have taught them caution. We still need the best and brightest, but we need them to have somehow learned humility along the way."

Ross Douthat

"Hermann Samuel Reimarus, ...writing in the 18th century,.. argued that the real Jesus of Nazareth was a political revolutionary who died disappointed, and whose disciples invented a resurrection - and with it, a religion - to make sense of his failure."

Ross Douthat

"Trump is ... challenging...the entire post-Reagan conservative matrix."

"In American politics, the two-party system, no less than the Senate or the Supreme Court, has long served as a check on pure democracy, a means of elite control....[by] the (mostly upper-class, highly-educated, self-consciously globalist) people..."

Russ Douthat

"...a politician explains who actually reads the British papers [on a British sitcom]:.

'The Daily Mirror is read by people who think they run the country.

The Guardian is read by people who think they ought to run the country.

The Times is read by the people who actually do run the country.

The Daily Mail is read by the wives of the people who run the country.

The Financial Times is read by people who own the country.

The Morning Star is read by people who think the country ought to be run by another country. And

The Daily Telegraph is read by people who think it is."

Ross Douthat

"...American people are exceptional: exceptionally easy to bait."

fake Putin via Douthat

"Between the 19th century and the 1950s, the American university was gradually transformed from an institution intended to transmit knowledge into an institution designed to serve technocracy....

... students seeking wisdom and character could be forgiven for feeling like a distraction from the university's real business....

... the student radicalism of the 1960s entered the picture. The radicals moved quickly to dismantle the vestiges of moral conservatism on campus — the in loco parentis rules that still governed undergraduate life, for instance. But their real mission was actually a kind of remoralization, a renewal of the university as a place of almost-religious purpose, where students would be educated about certain great truths and then sent forth to live them out....

... the 1990s, was a campus landscape where left-wing pieties dominated official discourse, but the university's deeper spirit remained technocratic, careerist and basically amoral....

The protestors at Yale and Missouri ... are... dealing with a university system that's genuinely corrupt...

The protestors ... aren't wrong to smell the rot around them."

Ross Douthat in A Crisis our Universities Deserve NYT 11-15-2015

"WHEN an old order is in crisis, something distinctive happens to the men who lead it.

A strange paralysis sets in, a curious mix of denial and resignation."

"...distrustful stability and prosperous despair..."

Ross Douthat

via Lilla review: 'decadence means a kind of cultural exhaustion and world-weariness...malaise... to sap us of our strength and hope.'

"...China's attempt to wean young people off the spiritual opium of video gaming."

from How I Became a Science Experiment, NYT:

"...the body's experiences are their own form of empirical reality...

I could feel the experience of illness remaking me...[use in memoir?]

integrate fringe experiences with more mainstream positions..."

The Deep Places: A Memoir of Illness and Discovery:

The prairie of pain, the suffering body as the suffering landscape, is the best description of the pain of Lyme I've heard or read. But

Bookmark - Page 191 · Location 2555

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the possessed person experiences a taste of hell but isn't actually damned, the

Bookmark - Page 195 · Location 2607

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embrace the experimental spirit that chronic

Bookmark - Page 195 · Location 2611

Highlight(orange) - Page 195 · Location 2611

sickness seems to obviously require.

Highlight(orange) - Page 196 · Location 2613

To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield. That's from Tennyson,

Highlight(orange) - Page 196 · Location 2615

The gift of chronic illness is the space and opportunity to strive and seek.

Bookmark - Page 196 · Location 2628

Highlight(orange) - Page 197 · Location 2631

I am still alive.

"...beliefs instilled by... experiences and the skepticism they generate (understandably) from people who haven't had them... is crucial to understanding cultural polarization in our time... people who have a terrible experience with official consensus, and discover that some weird idea that the establishment derides actually seems to work, tend to embrace a new rule to replace the old one: that official knowledge is always wrong, that outsiders are always more trustworthy than insiders, that if ... Fauci or the FDA get some critical things wrong, you can't trust them to get anything right..."

end Douthat

"...the university—indeed all of education —must be a place where re-examination, uncertainty, change and conflict become an integral part of what is studied."

Douglas Dowd

Maureen Dowd

...Rand is blazing back as an icon of the Tea Party, which overlooks her atheism, amorality in romance and vigorous support for abortion.

She died before capitalism evolved into a vampire casino where you could bet against investments you sold to your clients, and make money off something you didn't own or that existed only on paper.

it is obvious now that the party is fully engaged in a project to dismantle the foundations of the New Deal and the Great Society, and to liberate business and the rich from the inconveniences of oversight and taxes.

Maureen Dowd

NY Times editorial 4-18-2011

"It is not about pixels versus print. It is not about how you're reading. It is about what you're reading."

"It's so easy to wipe the slate clean on TV"

"...the N.S.A. went wild with technology that allowed it to go wild. These technological toys turn everyone into thieves."

"It is always the case that technology is invented and used before its consequences are known."

M Dowd

[GOP] "Gasping Old Party."

"...dictators are often not just cruel and evil, but lunatics. It's very rare to find a rational dictator. Absolute power deranges them and gives them delusions and fantasies."

The Republican 'Taliban wing' ...the rabid Tea Party militants...

Obama...is a new entity...He's the first independent president...

"Americans are scared out of their minds about what is happening to America....the Tea Party slashers roaming the corridors of the Capitol have feasted without resistance on delicious victims and will only grow bolder."

"The Republicans are now the 'How great is it to be stupid?' party...there's no intellectual requirement for the office of the presidency..

The occupational hazard of democracy is know-nothing voters. It shouldn't be no-nothing candidates."

"...doing what Republicans do: Throwing people out of work and making money."

(on Mitt Romney)

"When a man marries his mistress he creates a job opening."

(on Newt Gingrich)

Maureen Dowd

"Randism is a state of arrested adolescence."

on Ayn Rand Maureen Dowd

"Republicans care ... deeply about making us think that they care deeply."

"They used patriotism like brass knuckles." - on Bush-Cheney

Maureen Dowd

"...the last ever to be seen ... a Civilization gone with the wind."

from Gone with the Wind via Maureen Dowd

For all the Republican establishment's self-righteous bleating, Trump is nothing more than an unvarnished, cruder version. For years, it has fanned, stoked and exploited the worst angels among the nativists, racists, Pharisees and angry white men, concurring in anti-immigrant measures, restricting minority voting, whipping up anti-Planned Parenthood hysteria and enabling gun nuts.

How lame was it that after saying he was a crazy choice, Rubio, Ted Cruz, Paul Ryan and John McCain turned around and said they will support Trump if he's the nominee?

Maureen Dowd

"America is living through a fractured fairy tale, in the grip of a lonely and uninformed mad king, an arrogant and naïve princeling, a comely but complicit blond princess and a dyspeptic, dystopian troll under the bridge."

M Dowd

"Trump White House, where conflict of interest has been replaced by confluence of interest."

"...the Irish propensity, woven through our literature and history, [is] to let the past drag down the present."

"Newt is the progenitor of the modern politics of personal destruction..."

He weaves an alternative history of his own life, where he is saving civilization rather than ripping up the fabric of Congress, where he improves the moral climate of America rather than pollutes it.

Republicans have a far greater talent for hypocrisy than easily cowed Democrats do — and no doubt appreciate that in a leader."

Maureen Dowd

"Michael Beschloss: "On December 1972 tape, Nixon told Kissinger, 'The press is the enemy, the establishment is the enemy, the professors are the enemy.'"...

Michael D'Antonio said. "He thinks confidence is more important than competence and attitude matters more than aptitude. Others may be exhausted by the frenzy. You can see it in their drawn faces and pained expressions. Donald is energized by the fight."

Maureen Dowd

"Trump biographer Michael D'Antonio says the president has been lying reflexively since he was a kid bragging about home runs he didn't hit. He gets warped satisfaction from making up stuff... including fictitious claims of dating Carla Bruni and being hit on by Madonna."

Maureen Dowd

"When societies try to protect a malevolent status quo, they become warped. The most chilling sign of this is when people look the other way as the most vulnerable members of society are preyed on."

"...the media's shock collar."

"Trump built a movement based on lies. The Cheneys showed him how it's done....I miss torturing Liz Cheney."

via Dowd: 'Shakespeare knew that character is revealed when the stakes are high.'

...Drew Lichtenberg, resident dramaturge at the Shakespeare Theater Company, points out, Hamlet's disquiet about suicide and dying has a resonance in the part of the world now bearing the slings and arrows of a demented dictator.

"There's a long tradition in Central European countries, such as Poland or Ukraine, of embracing Shakespeare and especially Hamlet as a kind of metaphor for the broader political situation," he said. "Poland and Ukraine both have had periods where they didn't exist, where their language was erased and replaced by either German or Russian as the official language and culture of the state. They know what it is 'not to be.'"

We've become a country of cowards, so terrified of the unholy power of gun worship that no sacrifice of young blood is too great to appease it.

"Trump set a fire with lies, then doused Mike Pence in gasoline."

end Maureen Dowd

"That which is clearly known hath less terror than that which is but hinted at and guessed."

A Conan Doyle in The Hound of the Baskervilles

Draghi, Mario:

"Do you prefer peace or the air conditioning on?"

...men...should discover a mode of government that contained the greatest sum of individual happiness, with the least national expense."

Dragonetti, quoted by T Paine in Common Sense.

"....the Fourth Amendment for all intents and purposes was revoked after 9/11..."

Thomas Drake

Drazkiewicz, Elzbieta:

"Conspiracy theories are more about values than about information..."

Conspiracy theories ...amplify existing fears and ideas about people's place in the world...

To gain traction, conspiracy theories had to resonate with local histories."

Dreher, Ron:

"If the right should somehow gain that kind of power, I don't trust us with it,"
quoting emigre's interviewed from Soviet, Czech:

"You will not be able to predict what will be held against you tomorrow. You have no idea what completely normal thing you do today, or say today, will be used against you to destroy you. This is what people in the Soviet Union saw. We know how this works..."

"When you're busy enjoying what you're doing, you don't spend a lot of money."
Mildred Dresselhaus on scientist salaries

"People can have a hard time recognizing that they've been conned."
"Trump has the rhetorical skills of the talented demagogue; his rants are leavened with entertainment. He applies to the dangerous the cosmetic of fun...He's turned the truth into a volleyball."

Elizabeth Drew

on Nancy Drew:

"She's a force for good, unafraid to speak up, unafraid to challenge authority." via Melanie Rehak
"...a girl who cannot accept that the truth not be told." via Noga Landau

Christian Drosten:

by journalist Holger Wormer: '...it is comforting to listen to someone explaining what is going on.'

Drexler, Jorge - cancionista:

"La Luz Que Sabe Robar" ("The light that Knows how to Steal").

"Salvavidas de Hielo" ("Lifejacket Made of Ice").

"What's important is connections, connections, connections." NYT profile

"Profit is the cost of staying in business."

"One of the secrets of productivity is to have a very big waste-paper basket to take care of all invitations such as yours."

Peter Drucker

"[The French] are aiming for something that sounds quite American: choice (here they call it *equilibre* - balance). Unlike us, they might actually get it."

Pamela Druckerman, Bebe

"The typical 'French dream' ... isn't of great wealth, it's of great security, including a steady income and pension."

Pamela Druckerman

"...in a polarized environment voters make worse choices and have more confidence in them ... intense party competition degenerates opinion quality."

James N Druckman

"The two most important problems facing the human race right now are the need for widespread deployment of renewable energy and figuring out how to deal with the end of work."

Kevin Drum, Mother Jones Robot Job story see pdf

Drutman, Lee:

"...hyper-polarization cracked the foundations of American democracy, creating the conditions under which a party could break democratic norms with impunity, because winning in the short term became more important than maintaining democracy for the long term."

Druyan, Ann:

"...humanity has to step up...all of us are descended from generations, countless generations, of humans who had their backs to the wall and who managed to endure and to survive, and even to flourish. And that's what we have to do. It's our turn."

"If we consider divine anything we do not understand, God is a kind of shorthand for what we do not know."

Ann Druyan see Consilience

John Dryden, 1685:

Happy the man, and happy he alone,

He who can call today his own:

He who, secure within, can say,

Tomorrow do thy worst, for I have lived today.

Be fair or foul or rain or shine

The joys I have possessed, in spite of fate, are mine.

Not heaven itself upon the past has power,

But what has been, has been, and I have had my hour.

Dryden, John 1685

"Frustration turns into hate."

Jose Napoleon Duarte

W. E. B. Du Bois:

"If it is going to use this power to force the world into color prejudice and race antagonism; if it is going to use it to manufacture millionaires, increase the rule of wealth, and break down democratic government everywhere; if it is going increasingly to stand for reaction, fascism, white supremacy and imperialism; if it is going to promote war and not peace; then America will go the way of the Roman Empire."

"We let men take wealth which is not theirs; if the seizure is 'legal' we call it high profits and the profiteers help decide what is legal."

"Nations reel and stagger on their way; they make hideous mistakes; they commit frightful wrongs; they do great and beautiful things. And shall we not best guide humanity by telling the truth about all this, so far as the truth is ascertainable."

"The final product of our training must be neither a psychologist nor a brickmason, but a man."

WEB DuBois

Du Bois, 1903: 'The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line.', via Sleeper

Dubos, Rene:

"Every civilization has its own kind of pestilence and can control it only by reforming itself."

"Being a scientist does not disqualify a person from being an intelligent citizen."

L DuBridge

"The eleventh-century Christians still felt utterly crushed by mystery, overwhelmed by the unknown world their eyes could not see."

Georges Duby, historian

...language is just no damn good – I use it because I have to. but I don't put any trust in it. We never understand each other."

"Art is a habit-forming drug." (via Shlain)
Marcel Duchamp

Dudinsky, Denis of Belarus:

"...these people know how to formulate their requests in such a way that you cannot say no."

"Trump's habit of pushing the boundary on truthfulness has almost been a permission slip for everyone else to push that boundary,"

Jennifer Duffy via Bruni

"When one admits his fear, his finitude, a confidence can be reborn from this vulnerability. Being alive is a risk. Few beings are."

Anne Dufourmantelle

"Emotion had brought down the house of reason...
The unifying threads are meanness and greed..."

Lisa Duggan on Ayn Rand

more via reviewer Jennifer Szalai: 'her enormous fan base include Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, Tea Partiers, president Trump and innumerable adolescents...Rand...has somehow managed to be reclaimed by those she so cruelly deplored...
a philosophical system in which every human relationship is transactional...
She liked to affect a steely, imperious persona, but she was deeply insecure and easily wounded.'

"It is not our abilities that show what
we truly are— it is our choices"

The all-time, bar-none, best quote ever about decision theory:
Albus Dumbledore

"The long history of Earth testifies that the modern era has constructed an entire civilization on mistaken assumptions.

Earth systems and human ones...require a continuous flow of energy to maintain their organization, and the greater the complexity, the greater the demand for energy.

The only thing certain about the coming century is its immense uncertainty. The real temptation of our time will be the impulse to flee from this uncertainty."

Diane Dumonowski

"Conspiracy theories are the last refuge of the status quo - its last line of ideological defense.

...what is most wrong with the world is not in its heart but in its bones...

conspiracy theories tend to be projections..."

Mark Dunbar

"Civilization exists by geological consent, subject to change without notice."

Printing was the Reformation; Gutenberg made Luther possible."

w...the man who darkened the human soul with the most absurd and blasphemous conception of God in all the long and honored history of nonsense. (on John Calvin)

"A great civilization is not conquered from without until it has destroyed itself from within."

"No civilization has found life tolerable without ... the things that provide at least some brief respite from reality."

Will Durant, Historian

"The American people have a limited attention span. Once you convince them there is a problem they want a solution."

Dick Durbin

"Voters reacted to this in the mid-term election by throwing out the party that saved the day and restoring to power the party that caused the problem.
Sometimes, madam - a leader has to lead."

David Durenberger

"I'm not a big fan of the idea of countries...I consider myself a legal citizen of the world."

Pavel Durov

Duterte, Rodrigo:

"Journalists are not exempted from assassination."

Dutzy, Sherry:

"I strongly believe in the separation between church and state ... since I wouldn't go to church to hear a political speech, why was I accepting the recital of a prayer at a governmental meeting?"

"Data is just a proxy for control."

Sam Dwyer, UPS driver

"Everything worth doing takes time. You have to write a hundred bad songs before you write one good one."

Bob Dylan

"...if you're not busy being born, you're busy dying."

Dylan via Steve Jobs

"Sometimes I think this whole world is one big prison yard,
Some of us are prisoners, some of us are guards," Dylan

Come senators, congressmen
Please heed the call
Don't stand in the doorway
Don't block up the hall
For he that gets hurt
Will be he who has stalled
There's a battle outside
And it is ragin'
It'll soon shake your windows
And rattle your walls
For the times they are a-changin'.

Come mothers and fathers
Throughout the land
And don't criticize
What you can't understand
Your sons and your daughters
Are beyond your command
Your old road is
Rapidly agin'
Please get out of the new one
If you can't lend your hand
For the times they are a-changin'.

Dylan

"...something is happening here,
but you don't know what it is."

Dylan

Merchants of war:

<http://www.vox.com/2016/10/13/13271166/michelle-obama-trump-speech>

"I'm the first person who'll put it to you
and the last person who'll explain it to you."

Dylan

"I hate what he does with every cell of my soul. I have overcome fear; my hatred for him defeated it."

Sergei A Dylevsky, Belarus in NYT

Dyson, Freeman:

"I am well aware that memory is unreliable. It not only selects and rearranges the facts of our lives, but also embroiders and invents..."

The future is my third home... The future is my distant mirrow.

Freeman Dyson said of Taylor, "Very few people have Ted's imagination. ... I think he is perhaps the greatest man that I ever knew well. And he is completely unknown." [17]

"Science is ... an unending argument between a great multitude of voices. It resembles Wikipedia much more than it resembles the Encyclopedia Britannica."

"Science and religion are two windows that people look through, trying to understand the big universe outside, trying to understand why we are here. The two windows give different views, but they look out at the same universe. Both views are one-sided, neither is complete. Both leave out essential features of the real world. And both are worthy of respect."

"Science as subversion has a long history."

...the universe is guided by the principle of maximum diversity."

from NYT Obit: '...Dyson's mind burned until the end.'

via Economist obit: Heretics were useful in science. It was far better to be contradicted than ignored; better to be wrong than vague.

on Feynman: "he was a natural physicist, and he thought in terms of concrete objects. The mathematics was an encumbrance, something you had to stick on afterwards, more or less... as a necessary evil."

Freeman Dyson

"... deliberate ignorance ... whiteness ... racial ignorance."

Michael Eric Dyson